

WE CLAIM:

1. A reader for electro-optically reading indicia associated with objects passing through a point-of-transaction workstation having a countertop, the reader comprising:

a) a housing supported on the countertop and having a window lying in a generally vertical plane when so supported;

b) a rotary mirrored component mounted in the housing for rotation about an axis;

c) a plurality of stationary, folding mirrors mounted in the housing and arranged generally about the axis;

d) a light source mounted in the housing and operative for generating and directing a light beam to the rotary component for reflection therefrom to the stationary mirrors for reflection therefrom through the window to the indicia to be read; and

e) a drive in the housing for rotating the rotary component to sweep the light beam across the stationary mirrors and form a scan pattern comprising a plurality of scan lines at and past the window;

f) wherein the stationary mirrors include a first pair of mirrors for reflecting first ones of the scan lines, a second pair of mirrors for reflecting second ones of the scan lines, and a third pair of mirrors intermediate, and tilted relative to, the first and second pairs of mirrors, for reflecting third ones of the scan lines at an upper central region of the window, thereby creating a full coverage omni-directional scan pattern for reading the indicia.

2. The reader of claim 1, wherein the housing has a parallelepiped shape and has a base on which the housing is supported on the countertop.

3. The reader of claim 1, wherein the rotary component has a plurality of planar mirrors arranged around the axis.

4. The reader of claim 1, wherein each of the stationary mirrors is planar.

5. The reader of claim 4, wherein the stationary mirrors are arranged in succession along a row, wherein the first pair of mirrors are located at opposite ends of the row, wherein the second pair of mirrors are located adjacent each other at a central region of the row, and wherein each mirror of the third pair is located between a respective mirror of the first pair and a respective mirror of the second pair.

6. The reader of claim 5, wherein the housing has a base resting on the countertop, and wherein the mirrors of the second pair have lower linear edges generally parallel to the base.

7. The reader of claim 6, wherein the mirrors of the second pair have lower edges, and wherein the mirrors of the third pair have lower edges closer to the window than the lower edges of the mirrors of the second pair.

8. The reader of claim 1, wherein the rotary component has four planar mirrors arranged around the axis, and wherein there are six, planar stationary mirrors.